Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAMBUR 00792 281509Z ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 DHA-02 SCA-01 /019 W

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FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4272 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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PASS SCS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CARR, GW
SUBJECT: LEGAL REPRESENTATION AVAILABLE TO AMERICANS
ARRESTED ABROAD

REF: STATE 147704

FOLLOWING INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM AUTHORITATIVE LOCAL LEGAL SOURCES IN RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT'S QUESTIONS:

A. YES, LEGAL COUNSEL OF "PUBLIC DEFENDER" TYPE IS PROVIDED GRATIS TO PRISONERS INCLUDING U.S. NATIONALS UNABLE TO PAY FOR PRIVATE COUNSEL;

- B. SUCH LEGAL COUNSEL IS AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING BASES:
- 1. AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY IN ALL CRIMINAL CASES WHERE A SENTENCE OF MORE THAN FIVE YEARS IS POSSIBLE, AND IN ALL CRIMES AGAINST STATE SECUIRTY;
- $2.\ AVAILABLE\ REGULARLY\ AFTER\ THREE\ MONTHS\ IMPRISONMENT;$
- 3. ALSO AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY UNDER PROVISIONS OF SO-CALLED "RUBBER CLAUSE" WHICH PROVIDES THAT COURT MAY APPOINT A PUBLIC DEFENDER IF IT SEEMS NECESSARY IN CASES WHERE A SERIOUS CRIME COMMITTED.
- C. THE QUALITY OF PUBLIC-FUNDED LEGAL ASSISTANCE IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE SAME AS THAT OF PRIVATELY-PAID LAWYERS. PROBABLY THIS THEORY WORKS OUT FAIRLY WELL IN PRACTICE, BUT PRIVATELY-UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 HAMBUR 00792 281509Z

PAID LAWYERS OCCASIONALLY MAY PERFORM SOMEWHAT BETTER THAN COURT-APPOINTED LAWYERS. DEVINE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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